



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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July 3, 2023
Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh
1021 O Street, Suite 7220
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senate Bill 89
SUPPORT

Dear Senator Ochoa Bogh:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Senate Bill 89 (Ochoa Bogh).

Perpetrators of stalking tend to damage their victim's property and target the victim's loved ones, including their pets. The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) National Crime Victimization Survey estimates that four in 10 stalkers threaten a victim or their family, friends, co-workers, or family pet, with 87,020 threats to harm a pet having been reported.

SB 89 proposes to amend the existing stalking statute to expand the credible threat portion of the statute to also include a threat made with the intent to place a person in reasonable fear for the safety of their pet, service animal, emotional support animal, or horse.

Humans and animals form strong bonds that induce strong feelings of affection and connection, which can make a pet an easy target for threats and physical harm. Existing law ignores the powerful impact of a threat or injury to a beloved pet. This bill would update California law to conform to the federal anti-stalking statute.

It is critical that California's anti-stalking law is updated to better protect stalking victims and their pets.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Tamar Tokat in our Legislative Office at 916-442-0668.

Very Truly Yours,

GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney